

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Langley Research Center Safety Alert

Date: March 26, 1997

TO:

ALL LaRC EMPLOYEES

FROM:

429/Head, Office of Safety and Facility Assurance, OSEMA

421/Head, Office of Mission Assurance, OSEMA

SUBJECT: Receipt Inspection for Quality-Sensitive Purchases

On July 9, 1996, a Safety Alert was issued to all employees referencing the receipt inspection of safety critical purchases. LaRC has experienced problems with substandard and counterfeit parts in addition to parts incorrectly packaged, mismarked, damaged, used, or altered in an attempt to meet specifications.

NASA Management Instruction (NMI) 5320.7, "Basic Policy for Mechanical Parts Control," established the basic policy for controlling the selection, acquisition, testing, and traceability of all mechanical parts. Quality-Sensitive Mechanical Parts such as high strength fasteners, high pressure fittings, metal pipe or tubing, and metal plate or shapes are required to be receipt inspected. Parts received from the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) are coded and delivered to the Receipt Inspection Quality Assurance Laboratory (RIQAL) for testing prior to issue. When Quality-Sensitive Mechanical Parts are received through Purchase Requests (PRs) or Credit Cards, it is the responsibility of the requester to contact the RIQAL for receipt inspection.

Since the last Safety Alert was issued, there have been very few requests for testing of Quality-Sensitive Mechanical Parts received through PRs or Credit Cards. Failure to perform this testing is a violation of LaRC Safety Policy. Periodic audits will be performed to monitor compliance to this policy.

If you receive a Quality-Sensitive Mechanical Part, through a PR or Credit Card order, you are requested to contact Dave Rabon, RIQAL Manager (46890) or Art Hayhurst, RIQAL Point of Contact (43352).

Alan H. Phillips

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V. William Wessel

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THIS NOTICE TO BE POSTED ON FACILITY BULLETIN BOARDS FOR A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS